



Town of Arlington, Massachusetts
730 Massachusetts Ave., Arlington, MA 02476
Phone: 781-316-3000

webmaster@town.arlington.ma.us

Library Trustees Minutes 12-11-2001

Robbins Library Board of Trustees
December 11, 2001

Call to order

The meeting was called to order at 7:35 PM. Attending were trustees David Castiglioni, Patricia Deal, Katharine Lawrence, Barbara Muldoon, Frank Murphy, Joyce Radochia and Susan Ruderman. Also attending were library director Maryellen Loud and assistant director Cindy Diminture.

Approval of minutes

The minutes of the November 13th meeting were approved as written on a motion by Ms. Lawrence; seconded by Ms. Ruderman. Passed unanimously.

Spring author program

Ms. Lawrence spoke to Ruth Foster, who has agreed to speak on Wednesday, April 3, 2002 at 7:30 PM. She is a gardening columnist published in the Boston Globe as well as the author of Landscaping that Saves Energy and Dollars. Ms. Ruderman suggested that Representative Jim Marzilli introduce the author since he is an advocate of urban gardens. Ms. Deal will ask him to do this. Ms. Deal also brought up again the possibility of a mixed-topic author panel program for a future event. Trustees will bring suggestions of authors to discuss at the next meeting.

Update on Friends of the Library

Ms. Diminture updated the board on the status of the activities of the Friends of the Robbins Library. The annual Town Day book sale was a great success and the ongoing book sale is in a state of transition as a new volunteer takes over the maintenance duties. The Friends gave gifts of over \$5,000 to the Robbins and Fox libraries for supplemental materials and equipment. The Friends had a successful collaboration with the Arlington Human Rights Commission on the author visit by Henry Louis Gates. Two upcoming Friends' programs are Revere Beach Memories on January 30th and an author program with Pat Thomas discussing her book about a search for the AIDS vaccine on March 13th. A spring fundraising event is also under consideration. There is interest in having both trustees and Friends set out calendars of activities as early as possible so that each can plan around the other's programs.

Fundraising letters

Approximately 330 letters were mailed to donors from previous library fundraising campaigns. An additional solicitation will be made to some new homeowners.

Update on FY2003 budget

Ms. Loud recently attended a meeting of town department heads with the Town Manager. A discussion took place about expected budget deficits but no actual amounts are yet known. Mr. Farrington will meet individually with each

department head before making his recommendations. The state legislature decreased the state aid budget by 7% so our award will be reduced from last year's.

Architects' presentation/space plans

Architects from the firm of Butler/Bennett Architects met with the board and gave a presentation on their space plan proposals for the Adult Services workroom, the reading room and the lobby area. Trustees were able to study the plans, view the areas and have questions answered. The consensus of the board was that Ms. Loud should move forward and pursue cost estimates.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 10:15 PM. The next meeting will take place on Tuesday, January 8th at 7:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Cynthia Diminture